



California



California Forest Resource Fact Sheet - 2004

Investment in State's Cooperative Programs (Projected Budget Figures are Estimates):

	FY 2003	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2004
	Federal	State	Federal	State
Forest Health Protection	188,500	188,500	113,000	113,000
Forest Health Monitoring	55,000	55,000	55,000	55,000
Cooperative Fire Protection - State Assistance (RFP&C)	1,000,210*	1,000,210*	1,106,581*	1,106,581*
Cooperative Fire Protection - Volunteer Assistance(RCFP)	954,032*	954,032*	952,000*	952,000*
Forest Stewardship Program	305,000	305,000	310,000	310,000
Economic Action Programs	300,000	300,000	350,000	350,000
Natural Resource Conservation Education	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Urban and Community Forestry	900,000	900,000	940,000	940,000

* 2 year funding

The cooperative programs are administered and implemented through a partnership between the State of California, the USDA Forest Service and many other private and government entities. These programs promote the health and productivity of California's forest lands and rural economies. Emphasis focuses on timber and other forest products, wildlife, water resources, rural economies and conservation practices. The goal is to maintain and improve the health of California's urban and rural forests and related economies. These programs:

- ◆ **Reduce costs** through the use of partnerships,
- ◆ **Increase values** through sustained productivity of forests, and
- ◆ Are **voluntary**, and use non-regulatory approaches.

Key issues:

- ◆ Wildland/Urban Interface and associated fire hazard and fuel reduction issues
- ◆ Forest Health Concerns related to increased age and density, and decreased diversity
- ◆ Rapid urbanization and subdivision development in wildland areas
- ◆ Water quality, riparian areas rehabilitation, and salmon and steelhead trout habitat restoration
- ◆ Forest health concerns related to invasive and noxious weed impacts on the environment

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

SELECTED FACTS		SELECTED RESULTS	
Population	33.5 million	Stewardship Plans Prepared (current year)	16
Acres of Forest Land	31.3 million	Area Under Stewardship Plans (current year)	9,572
Acres of Non-Industrial Private Forest Land	10.8 million	Area Under Stewardship Plans (all years)	244,086
Number of NIPF Landowners	346,000	Rural Acres Planted	38,252
Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection	3,622,328	Technical Assists to Private Landowners	556
Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection	23,756,087	Rural Fire Departments Assisted	
Number Rural Fire Departments	633	Rural Fire Department Volunteers Trained	
Number of Cities and Towns	858	Acres Surveyed for Forest Health	26,000,000
Forest Based Employment	110,000	Acres Protected from Insect & Disease Damage	21,000,000
Forest Based Earnings	\$3.4 billion	Cities and Urban Areas Assisted	745
Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank)	4.1%	Economic Action Grants to Rural Areas	11
State Forestry Budget	\$656 million	Technology transfer and Workshops	550

Program Highlights:

Urban and Community Forestry: The California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection's (CDF) contracts with California ReLeaf to provide community outreach, tree planting and inner city grants. CDF contracts with Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo to provide a U&CF state website and list server to inform users of many aspects of trees including color, structure, infrastructure compatibility, moisture requirements, wood production and uses and many other useful facts. This site also provides news on a big tree registry; grant availability, news, news groups, other web sites and publications dealing with urban forestry. This site can be reached at www.ufe.calpoly.edu. The California Urban Forest Council (CUFC) is funded to enhance the statewide U&CF program advisory committee in the sustaining of grass roots regional urban forest councils. Along with these programs, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo is designing academies to help provide new technology and training to CDF and USFS field staff along with urban professionals.

Cooperative Fire Protection : Volunteer Fire Assistance funds are for the purpose of providing financial, technical, and related assistance to State Foresters in cooperative efforts to organize, train and equip local firefighting forces, including those of Indian tribes or other native groups, to prevent, control and suppress fires threatening human lives, crops, livestock, farmsteads or other improvements, pastures, orchards, wildlife, rangeland, woodland, and other resources in rural areas. CDF uses State Fire Assistance Program funds in programs that have direct fire protection activities relating to the following purposes: development and transfer of new and improved fire control technologies, organization of shared fire suppression resources and achievement of more efficient state fire protection, acquisition and loan of federal excess property, organizational improvement and technology transfer.

Economic Action Program: High fire danger, declining harvest from public lands, economic impacts of mill closures and changing rural economies continue to challenge rural forest community residents. Over 150 communities have developed economic plans and over 375 communities have developed Fire Safe plans with EAP resources, Economic programs are delivered through Forest Service and State Economic Development Networks, while fire programs utilize both Forest Service and California Department of Forestry staff expertise. Both agencies emphasize utilization and value added processing of forest materials, including fuels removed for fire safety. New biomass processing technologies that produce heat and energy have been evaluated and several have been sited in Sierran and Siskiyou mountain communities. Community interest in Economic Action Programs remains high, Demand far exceeds available funds.

Forest Stewardship: The Forest Stewardship Program continues to be used to foster Stewardship Planning and help meet the educational needs for California's non-industrial private forest landowners. In conjunction with the University of California Cooperative Extension Service we sponsored an intermediate curriculum for forest landowners. This course can be adapted to be used around the state for workshops featuring training on such topics as Forest Ecology, Fire and Risk Management, Plant Physiology and Growth, Regulation, Forest History and others. The additional classes were held this year and were a great success. The FSP funds allow many landowners to work with California's Registered Professional Foresters to develop Stewardship Planning that they might not get without the program,

Forest Legacy: Californian forested landowners are becoming much more interested in the Forest Legacy Program as we begin to build on our successes. Last year FLP contributed to the closing of a Conservation Easement of 3640 acres on a working cattle ranch that contains over 1600 acres of Douglas fir and Redwood. California is also close to finishing up our Gualala YMCA project that will place a Conservation Easement on 440 acres along the Gualala River in Mendocino County. The forest contains some Old Growth Redwood greater than 10 feet in diameter and over 200 feet high. Additionally, there is another 1100 acres of Pine, Douglas fir, Incense cedar and oak woodland in escrow as a part of a 5041 acre ranch in San Diego County. This project is expected to close in August.

Forest Health Protection: Annual aerial survey covered almost 26 million acres of California forests and woodlands in 2003. Widespread tree mortality continues in the mountains of southern California. The fires of 2003 burned only 5-10% of the mortality areas and a severe fire hazard will remain in 2004. A special aerial survey of 13 million acres of coastal forest found a slight expansion of Sudden Oak Death in the coastal area. The number of infested counties remains at 12, but the known susceptible plant species in California is now 29. An additional aerial survey covered almost 8 million acres to assess pinyon pine mortality. Ground surveys indicated that Douglas-fir tussock moth populations may expand markedly in 2004 and that Pandora moth will defoliate 40,000 acres pine on the Inyo National Forest in 2004. The cooperative effort of CDF and USDA FS continued to use satellite imagery to develop change detection maps for forest mortality and pest damage. One report was issued in 2003 and two are expected in 2004.

Natural Resource Conservation Education: NRCE funds help link CDF and US Forest Service to the California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC) network (www.creec.org) – a regional network of environmental education coordinators sponsored by the California Department of Education and many state and community agencies and organizations. Additionally, NRCE funds were used to complete a second edition of the "Compendium of

Environmental Education for Natural and Human Communities”, a multi-agency sponsored publication that features a review and evaluation of environmental education curriculum materials.

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